

German forces. The battle continues. Fierce engagements took place on the 15th between the town of Lubaczow and the town of Stry. In the region of the village of Krakowice. On the 16th in the sector between the Tsimenitz and the Stry rivers the enemy was thrown back in disorder. Our notable captures on the 16th above Zyrnow in the course of the 14th and 15th included 292 officers and 8,544 men, six guns, twenty-one machine guns, caissons and other booty.

On the 15th the enemy crossed the Dniester above and below Niznow. The forces which crossed above were destroyed and those which crossed below were checked. The fighting continues.

In the direction of Chotin between the Pruth and the Dniester we pressed the enemy on the 16th. The Austrian official statement of last night announced that the Teuton forces had reached a part of Grodek. That is accepted with equanimity, because it is a foregone conclusion that if the Russians evacuate the place it will be to fight over every foot of the remaining sixteen miles to Lemberg in prepared positions, which the enemy will advance over level ground and along the few roads and railways which cross the marshes.

## TARNOGROD OCCUPIED.

Vienna Announces Russian Retreat Between San and Vistula.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun. Vienna, June 18.—The Austrian official statement of last night announced that the Teuton forces had reached a part of Grodek. That is accepted with equanimity, because it is a foregone conclusion that if the Russians evacuate the place it will be to fight over every foot of the remaining sixteen miles to Lemberg in prepared positions, which the enemy will advance over level ground and along the few roads and railways which cross the marshes.

Our troops advanced in pursuit of the Russian forces. North of Sennawa we reached the hills of Koszow. In the valley of the Tanew and occupied Tarnograd. The Russian forces between the San and the Vistula have retreated at different points. We took possession of Sienzanow and the hill north of that town.

Strong Russian forces are concentrated in the mountainous land east of Niemirow and in the region near Janow. Attacks occurred on the 16th and the 17th. Our troops occupied some places east of the river.

The Russians retreated south of the Dniester. After violent fighting south of the pass near Zytynia in the direction of Kolodisy our troops reached the mouth of the Weszka during the pursuit.

The situation on the Dniester otherwise is unaltered. Eight Russian attacks between the Dniester and the Pruth have been repulsed with heavy losses by the east wing of Gen. Plazner's army. The enemy, who made desperate attempts to drive back the troops in Bukowina, sustained heavy losses by our artillery fire and retreated hurriedly. We made eight officers and 1,000 men prisoners and captured three machine guns.

## AUSTRIANS IN RETREAT.

Forced by Russians to Evacuate Novo Silitza.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun. London, June 18.—The Bucharest correspondent of the Daily Mail telegraphs that the forces of the Austrians operating against Bessarabia and advancing upon the valley of the Stoiny were repulsed northward of Stoiny. They retired to the east of the Stoiny provisions and ammunitions. Later they evacuated Novo Silitza.

## TURKS REGAIN GROUND.

Claim Successes Over British Forces in Asi Bannu District.

BRITAIN, via London, June 18.—A despatch from Constantinople says that the British forces have now lost most of the ground formerly held by them in the district of Asi Bannu, on the west coast of the Gallipoli Peninsula, and that the only ground left to them here is a small crescent, 2,800 yards long with a maximum width of 1,100 yards, to the northward of Gaba Tepe. Three small hills are included in this position. There is no protection from the sun and the troops have little water.

The despatch adds that the British fleet to escape German submarines, has taken refuge in the Gulf of Saros, on the northeastern coast of Imbros Island, sixteen miles from the peninsula, and that the Turks have exploded mines under three of the British vessels in this bay.

## SHELLED OWN TROOPS.

British Warship Said to Have Taken Them for Turks.

BOSTON, June 18.—Officers of the North Carolina, which arrived here this evening from the Levant, said that the British and French forces at the Dardanelles have lost heavily in the landing operations. On one occasion, they said, a British warship turned her guns on allied troops in the belief that they were Turks and many of the men were killed as they struggled up the slopes. The hospital at Alexandria, the officers added, are filled with wounded.

## 448,891 GERMANS KILLED.

Socialist Organ Makes Estimate of Losses to April 1.

BERN, via Paris, June 18.—The Socialist organ Taganich quotes what it considers reliable information for the statement that up to April 1, 388,891 Germans had been killed on all the fronts and it was estimated that 60,000 of the Germans reported missing also had been killed.

An average of 2,000 Germans have been killed daily for the past few months, it says, adding that the German wounded up to May 1 reached a total of 933,135.

## LUSITANIA INQUIRY ENDS.

Capt. Turner's Testimony Dismissed—No Date Set for Report.

LONDON, June 18.—The official inquiry into the sinking of the Lusitania closed at noon today after a short secret session at which it is understood that Capt. Turner's testimony and the instructions said to have been given to him by the Admiralty were discussed. The date on which the findings will be made public has not yet been announced.

## Baron Knorshoroug's Son Killed.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

LONDON, June 18.—Capt. Hon. C. H. Meysey Thompson, eldest son of Baron Knorshoroug, has been killed at the front. He was 27 years of age.

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## RUSSIA SAYS GERMANS PAID DEARLY TO WIN

Petrograd Admits Reverses in Galicia, but Puts Casualties of Enemy at From 120,000 to 150,000—Claims Capture of 40,000 Men.

PETROGRAD, June 18.—In a long official statement issued today the Russian War Office reviews the recent operations in Galicia, admitting the German success in driving the Russians back but saying that this success was bought very dearly, with casualties estimated at from 120,000 to 150,000 men on a front of thirty-eight miles between May 29 and June 15. In the same period 40,000 Germans were taken prisoners in this sector, which was between Bereznica and Krulavka.

The statement follows: "The development of the battle along the Tsimenitz-Swica front, along which one of the six armies attacking our forces in Galicia is operating, will serve to give some idea of the magnitude of the actions in this region. The significance of the operations in the vicinity of Stry is found in the fact that they were endeavoring to turn our forces in the phalanxes under Gen. von Mackensen. The eventual success of the enemy in the direction of Stry and Lemberg would have been a great help to the offensive of Gen. Mackensen. Failure on the other hand would have meant that Mackensen's operations were merely a series of fruitless attacks."

"The above referred to sector on the Dniester River, however, was not the scene of the principal fighting, even with regard to the number of troops engaged. On May 15 the enemy, closely following our troops retreating from the Carpathians, met our opposition in the region to the north of Koszow, north-west of Stry, and in the vicinity of Belachow. On the 19th the enemy brought all his forces into action, but at the end of two days he was compelled to quit this offensive, having lost tens of thousands of men.

## Wing Turned in Eight Days.

"His only success in eight days fighting was the turning of our right wing near Sloski, with the threat of possible outflanking movement. During this work we remained passive, confining our operations to a series of attacks on the enemy as he approached our trenches. The next four days were devoted by the enemy to bringing together heavy artillery and supporting it with infantry. On May 25 saw the beginning of the decisive attack, and the crisis came on the fifth day of the fighting. A powerful force, composed of three German divisions, succeeded at the price of incredible sacrifices in carrying Stry. Perceiving the exhaustion of the Austrians, we took the offensive and drove them back.

"For three days, May 30, 31 and June 1, we were undecided whether to attempt to turn the Germans, who had broken through our front near Stry, or to follow them on the Dniester River. The general situation in Galicia finally caused us to adopt the latter course. The night of June 2 the enemy demonstrated against our bridgeheads in the direction of Mikolajow, losing several thousand men.

"The principal attack was delivered by the army under Gen. von Bothmer at a point more to the east. The attack against Zidaczow was repulsed, but on the night of June 6 Gen. von Bothmer crossed the River Dniester near Jurawa and on June 8 occupied the left bank of the river for a distance of fifteen miles.

## Attack After Dniester Defeat.

"June 8 and 9 the bulk of the German forces was decisively defeated and then took across the Dniester. Nevertheless, on June 12 the German commander, beginning a general offensive, delivered a new attack with the remains of his regiments. The principal German force moved along the right bank of the River Stry and attacked our bridgehead near Zidaczow.

"Toward June 15 the time came for another reversal of the enemy. At Bereznica and Krulavka alone we killed with the bayonet and buried 1,000 Germans. On the 16th the white flag, which was hoisted on the other hand, was taken in this sector. The total losses of the enemy on a front of thirty-eight miles were between 120,000 and 150,000 men.

"The additional columns descended the slopes of the Carpathian Mountains daily and reinforced the enemy. Many supplementary detachments, originally destined for Eastern Prussia, met their final fate in the valley of the Stry. Other supplementary detachments joined the fighting on their own initiative before they were able to attach themselves to the units to which they had been assigned.

## German Demoralization.

"The addition of considerable reinforcements brought into the scene of operations on the Dniester, under the command of Gen. von Boehm-Ermoli, "We have noted serious symptoms of demoralization which are beginning to show themselves in the ranks of the enemy in the vicinity of Mikolajow. "It has been interesting to trace the reflection of events on the Dniester in the official military announcements of the enemy. Every step, before it had been completed by the Germans, has been reported by their announcements. The official military reports of the enemy, which they are publishing in the press, are full of contradictions. The following day the announcements would say that the German army was making a successful advance in the direction of the Russian front, and the next day the declaration would be made that the Russians had great forces at their disposal in the region in question. Such a method of reporting has been noticed in the German announcements on three different occasions during the thirty days fighting on the River Dniester.

## In the Western Theatre.

Our enemies continue their attempts to break through our lines to the north of the Dniester. They are captured, only a few escape, and are taken to the rear. The text of the statement which was given out at the German army headquarters follows:

"In the Argonne we repulsed weak enemy advances at Vaucouleurs and in the Vosges. Engagements around Metzler still are going on.

## In the Eastern Theatre.

An advancing Russian division was driven back by German cavalry across the Szwedzka branch at point of contact. The German army, however, has not been modified, as we still maintain all the ground captured from the enemy.

## In the Southern Theatre.

On both sides of Tarnograd Austro-German troops are attacking. The enemy back toward a branch of the Tanew River. Later, during the night, these defeated Russians were driven still further back by the army under Gen. von Mackensen. They retreated as far as the prepared positions at Grodek, which are on the line running from the side of the second Szwedzka Brooks to their junction with the River Dniester.

## BULGARIA SOUNDS ALLIES.

Asks More Information as to Concessions if She Enters War.

LONDON, June 18.—Bulgaria has asked the Entente Powers for further information regarding the concessions to be made to her in the event of her entering the war on the side of the Entente. The date on which the findings will be made public has not yet been announced.

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Sees Foreign Office Officials—Dr. Solf Familiar With U. S. Conditions.

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The activity of Dr. Solf in the present situation is regarded here as of especial significance, because it is argued that he is more familiar with conditions in the United States than the majority of high German officials, and it is expected that his influence will be used toward effecting an amicable understanding with the American republic.

While no hint of the nature of the German reply to the latest American note has yet been made public, it is expected that an effort will be made to keep the way open for further discussions.

The wide divergence of views between the groups of German newspapers continues, one group advocating a friendly settlement of the issues involved and the other insisting that the German Government can make no compromise.

## Cologne "Gazette" for Peace.

The Cologne "Gazette," reviewing the general consensus of German newspaper opinion, says that it has expressed satisfaction that the latest American note offers opportunities for arrival at an understanding and says it believes that the diplomats of both nations will work toward a settlement of the issues involved in this end. Such a policy, the newspaper says, will certainly meet with the approval of the German people.

"It would be pure expediency," it adds, "to seek to drag in without necessity a ninth or tenth enemy for ourselves, even though its participation in the war would be limited to supplying the quadruple alliance with money and munitions."

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## U. S. LOSES INTEREST IN DR. MEYER TALE

Von Bernstorff Assures Lansing Charges About Meyer-Gerhard Are False.

## ON HIS PERSONAL HONOR

WASHINGTON, June 18.—So far as the State Department is concerned the incident of the charges that the United States Government was the victim of a deception in the sending of Dr. Meyer-Gerhard to Germany is closed.

The emphatic denial of these published reports telegraphed to the State Department by the German Embassy at Cedarhurst, L. I., yesterday was supplemented to-day by the call of Count von Bernstorff, the German Ambassador, on acting Secretary of State Lansing. As a result of this call and at the Ambassador's request Mr. Lansing this afternoon announced that the Ambassador had assured him on his personal honor that the reports published were a fabrication.

It was stated that the State Department is not investigating these reports and has no present intention of doing so on the basis of what has so far been made public. As a matter of fact, the incident has never been brought officially to this Government's attention except in the way of the denials received from the German Embassy.

The Ambassador assured Mr. Lansing that Dr. Meyer-Gerhard not only was the good officer of the United States in his voyage to Germany, but also that Dr. Meyer-Gerhard in all the months he spent in the United States never took part in the making of any purchases of military or naval supplies for Germany.

No such person as Dr. Alfred Meyer, mentioned in the published reports as the man who had impersonated Dr. Meyer-Gerhard, is known to the German Embassy, according to Count von Bernstorff. Certainly, he said, no such person is in the United States as the agent of the German War Department or of any other branch of the German Government.

Speaking with Acting Secretary Lansing the Ambassador expressed the greatest regret at the reports published and indicated that he regarded them as a gross insult to the United States. He said in view of its efforts to bring about a better understanding between the German and American governments in the present emergency, he regarded them as a gross insult to the United States.

The Ambassador said that he had indicated to the submarine issue. He indicated that he regarded them as a gross insult to the United States.

It is understood, however, that he contemplated proceedings against persons responsible for the publication of the reports.

In private conversation today the Ambassador said the story about Meyer-Gerhard was a gross insult to the United States and that he then pronounced it untrue. He said the military attaché of the embassy, Capt. von Papen, had assured him that the story was untrue, but he understood the story would not be published.

There have been a number of small and unimportant engagements in the valley of the Sasso di Stria and in the valley of the Sasso di Stria, where the enemy left thirty prisoners in our hands.

During the night of June 17, 18, and 19, the enemy concentrated artillery duels in the valley of the Sasso di Stria, where the enemy left thirty prisoners in our hands.

Although a strong wind interfered with our observations, we were able to see the destruction wrought by our fire on Malborghetto and Cortina, where several works and several small battery positions were damaged seriously.